

**REMARKS**

Applicants' traversal is on the basis that it is not difficult to examine both groups in the same application. As evidence, applicants point out that U.S. Serial No. 09/500,747, now U.S. patent 6,753,173, which issued on a similar application was directed to both intermolecular and intramolecular linkers of modular polyketide synthases. Both groups were examined together. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the restriction requirement be reconsidered and that withdrawn claims 36-38 and 40 be rejoined.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket No. 300622004601.

Respectfully submitted,

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